

Advanced Bomb Suit (ABS)



The Advanced Bomb Suit (ABS) is the best Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) suit available to U.S. Army EOD Soldiers. It protects against exploding ordnance and improvised explosive devices (IEDs). This system leverages new material technologies and designs to improve protection, comfort, and ergonomics.

ABS is a full-body ensemble that protects the EOD Soldier from fragmentation, blast overpressure, impact, and heat/flame. To minimize weight and maximize flexibility, fragmentation protection is provided at various levels, specific to body regions, based on wounding potential. Blast overpressure protection is provided to the front of the thorax. Impact protection is provided to the head and spine. Heat and flame protection are provided by flame- and heat-resistant materials. The suit includes an ice-based cooling system to extend mission duration. A hand protection module and face shield upgrade module provide increased protection. The system can be doffed in less than 30 seconds. All ballistic inserts are removable to facilitate laundering and repair. The system is equipped with provisions that allow future communications, performance, and capability upgrades.

System Description

Component Materials: The ABS is composed of Kevlar, Kevlar/Nomex Advance Ripstop, Nomex, Spectra Shield, nylon, Cordura, acrylic, and polycarbonate.

Color: Green/black

Weight: 68 lbs (size medium)

Size: Small, medium-small, medium, large

Status: Force acceptance fielding began in December 2005 to units at Fort Drum and Fort Polk, and received very positive feedback. Initial fielding will begin in winter of Fiscal Year 2008.

